

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 AGR-05 AID-05

RSC-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 /050 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OF/FFD-RESERVICE

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IO/AGR -PBYRNES

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R 180133Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EAID

SUBJECT: REPLY TO MESSAGE FROM BOERMA TO SECRETARY

ROME FOR FODAG

1. FAO DG BOERMA SENT CABLE TO SECRETARY DEC. 19, REPORTING BANGLADESH FOOD NEEDS AND VERY LIMITED FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES, AND URGING STEPS BY USG TO ENSURE UNINTERRUPTED FLOW OF SUPPLIES THROUGH FOOD AID. HE SAID HE SENDING SIMILAR MESSAGE AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND EEC AND REQUESTED FAO BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.

2. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING REPLY FROM THOMAS O. ENDERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS, TO DG BY APPROPRIATE MEANS.

3. "DEAR DR. BOERMA: SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS ASKED ME TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF DEC. 19 ON THE CRITICAL FOOD SITUATION IN BANGLADESH.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SHARES YOUR DEEP CONCERN REGARDING THE ADEQUACY OF FOOD SUPPLIES TO BANGLADESH. DURING THE FIRST HALF OF FY-75 WE PROGRAMED 200,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT AND 50,000 METRIC TONS OF RICE UNDER TITLE I

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OF PL 480. SHIPMENTS OF GRAIN TO BANGLADESH SO FAR THIS

YEAR (INCLUDING 72,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT PROGRAMED IN
FY-74) TOTAL APPROXIMATELY 310,000 METRIC TONS AND ARE THE
LARGEST FOR ANY SINGLE COUNTRY.

"ALTHOUGH PL 480 PROGRAMING FOR THE SECOND HALF OF
FY-75 HAS NOT BEEN FULLY DECIDED, WE HAVE IN THE PAST
WEEK PROPOSED TO THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT AN AMENDMENT TO
THE EXISTING PL 480 AGREEMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL 150,000
METRIC TONS OF RICE. THIS WOULD BE SHIPPED AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

" THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS MONITORING THE
BANGLADESH SITUATION CLOSELY AND, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF
PL 480 AVAILABILITIES AND OTHER URGENT PRIORITIES, WILL
CONTINUE TO FULFILL ITS PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT
TO ASSIST BANGLADESH TO MEET ITS FOOD NEEDS. " KISSINGER

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